

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 06366 281711Z

64

ACTION IO-13

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 6366

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO, AR

SUBJECT: UNESCO 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE - ISRAEL'S REQUEST FOR
INCLUSION IN EUROPEAN REGION

REF: (A) BUENOS AIRES 6265, (B) BUENOS AIRES 6309

1. FURTHER TO REFTEL (A), FIGUERERO READ US FROM LETTER
(UNSIGNED AS YET) TO GO TO AMB. MUSICH IN WASHINGTON RE
UNESCO GC. GOA POSITION REFLECTS DESIRE AVOID POLITIZATION
OF UNESCO TO EXTENT POSSIBLE. IT NOTES EXTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS
WITH US AND IMPLIES SOME CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER
COUNTRIES. IT RECOGNIZES STRONG INTEREST USG IN ISRAEL
ISSUE AND NOTES THAT DEFINITIVE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. AND
OTHERS FROM UNESCO COULD LEAD TO UNDUE POLITIZATION.

2. ACCORDINGLY, GOA PLANS SUPPORT EXECUTIVE BOARD POSITION ON
REGINAL ASSIGNMENTS PROVIDING (A) U.S. MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS
TO UNESCO COULD AVOID UNDUE POLITIZATION AND (B) AT THE TIME
OF VOTING, THIS POSITION HAS "HALF A CHANCE" OF SUCCESS. (IF
IT IS VERY CLEAR THAT THE ARGENTINE VOTE WOULD ONLY OPEN OLD SORES
(WITH 3RD WORLD) WITHOUT RESOLVING THE FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM, WITH
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PAGE 02 BUENOS 06366 281711Z

ONLY BYPRODUCTS FAVORABLE TO THE U.S., THEN ARGENTINA WOULD

RETURN TO ITS HISTORICAL ABSTENTION ON ISRAELI ISSUES.)

3. IF AMB. MUSICH AGREES, THIS MAY BE TOPIC FOR MINISTER GUZZETTI TO DISCUSS WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER, ACCORDING TO FIGUERERO.

4. FIGUERERO RECOUNTED NUMBER OF PRO-ISRAEL INTERNAL ACTIONS BEING TAKEN BY GOA IN WAKE OF WAVE OF ANTI-SEMITIC BOMBINGS HERE. THESE INCLUDE (A) LETTER OF FELICITATIONS FROM PRES. VIDELA TO DELEGATION OF ASSOCIATION OF ARGENTINE ISRAELITES ON OCCASION OF JEWISH NEW YEAR; (B) A PRO-JEWISH LETTER SOON TO BE PUBLISHED IN PRESS; (C) CLOSURE OF PUBLISHING HOUSE RESPONSIBLE FOR PRO-NAZI LITERATURE; (D) A STATEMENT OF ARGENTINE AMB. TO ISRAEL AFTER MEETING WITH PRES. VIDELA REFLECTING HIGH ESTEEM IN WHICH JEWISH COMMUNITY IN ARGENTINA IS HELD BY GOA.

5. FIGUERERO STATED GOA EXPECTED THAT ITS POSITION AT UNESCO AND ACTIONS PARA 4 ABOVE WILL COST THEM CONSIDERABLY (AMONG 3RD WORLD COUNTRIES) AND THIS MAY "MAKE IT HOT" FOR GUZZETTI AT UNGA.
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